

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3878

S E C R E T LUSAKA 2177

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: KAUNDA'S NAMIBIAN SPEECH AND SECRETARY'S TRIP

REF: (A) STATE 211888, (B) STATE 213100

1. I AM NOW SCHEDULED TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS MONDAY, AUGUST 30, AFTER ONE WEEK IN LUSAKA. NORMAL WAITING TIME IS 2 - 3 WEEKS. THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR WHO JUST PRESENTED A FEW WEEKS AGO WAITED 21 DAYS. MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ROGERS/SCHAUFLE MEETING WITH KAUNDA ON THE SECOND DAY AFTER ARRIVAL WAS CLEARLY EXCEPTIONAL. THERE IS GREAT SENSITIVITY HERE ABOUT MY MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT BEFORE MONDAY.

2. I PRESENTED PROBLEM OF NEED TO SEE THE PRESIDENT PER INSTRUCTIONS TO MARK CHONA THIS MORNING. HE PLEADED PRESIDENT'S EXTREMELY BUSY SCHEDULE TODAY AND ASKED WHETHER HE COULD TAKE THE MESSAGES. I OUTLINED POINTS I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE UP WITH PRESIDENT, DESCRIBING OUR SURPRISE WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE INCONSISTENCY OF HIS REMARKS YESTERDAY AND THE POSITIVE MESSAGE HE HAD GIVEN ROGERS AND SCHAUFLE. DID THE PRESIDENT STAND BY THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT OUR INITIATIVE WHICH HE HAD EXPRESSED TO THEM? DEPENDENT ON THE ANSWER TO THAT, I SAID I HAD A SECOND

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MESSAGE.

3. CHONA WAS QUICK TO REPLY AS FOLLOWS: HE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO ROGERS AND SCHAUFELE THAT WHILE HE WISHES US WELL AND GAVE US HIS BLESSINGS, THE FIGHTING WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL THE APPROPRIATE COMMITMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR SETTLEMENTS IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. PRESIDENT KAUNDA HAD TOLD THE SECRETARY THAT BECAUSE OF THE BREAKDOWN OF THE EARLIER EFFORTS AT PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT HE HAD CHOSEN THE PATH OF WARFARE. THIS POSITION HAD NOT BEEN ABANDONED AND WOULD NOT BE FOR THE TIME BEING. THE REFERENCE TO DOUBLE DEALING HE SAID WAS A VERY SPECIFIC ONE RELATING TO NAMIBIA AND THE ACTIONS THERE OF COUNTRIES WHICH WHILE SUPPORTING THE 1966 GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TERMINATING SOUTH AFRICA'S MANDATE, AT THE SAME TIME PERMITTED THEIR COMPANIES TO SIGN LEGAL INSTRUMENTS WITH THE SAG RELATING TO NAMIBIA. ONE COUNTRY, HE SAID, WAS CONTRIBUTING SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO SWAPO WHILE AT THE SAME TIME EXPANDING ITS EXPLOITATION OF URANIUM IN NAMIBIA. THE DOUBLE DEALING REMARKS WAS DEFINITELY NOT DIRECTED AT PRESENT US INITIATIVE. CHONA SAID THAT NO EARLIER THAN THIS MORNING THE PRESIDENT HAD EXPRESSED HIS FAITH AND HOPES IN THE INITIATIVES FOLLOWING FROM THE SECRETARY'S LUSAKA SPEECH. NOTHING IN THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH YESTERDAY SHOULD BE TAKEN AS A RESERVATION TO THIS SUPPORT.

4. IN VIEW OF THIS, I SAID, WE WISHED TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF PRESSING AHEAD WITH THE INITIATIVE. AS ROGERS AND SCHAUFELE HAD MENTIONED, DEPENDING ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR CONSULTATIONS DURING THIS TRIP, THE SECRETARY MAY BE MEETING WITH VORSTER. HE IS ALSO CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF A TRIP TO AFRICA DURING THE SECOND TWO WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER IN WHICH HE WOULD VISIT A NUMBER OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES. EXACT PLANS WILL HAVE TO WAIT TILL A LATER DATE BUT WE NEED TO KNOW NOW WHETHER ONE OR MORE VISITS WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA DURING THOSE TWO WEEKS IS AGREEABLE.

5. I SAID I WOULD BE GLAD TO DISCUSS THIS IN SOMEWHAT MORE DETAIL WITH THE PRESIDENT IF HE FELT IT DESIRABLE AND USEFUL. CHONA PROMISED TO BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH ME SHORTLY.

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6. DEPARTMENT PASS ROGERS/SCHAUFELE.
LOW

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, CAT-B, CHEROKEE 08/2 7/76
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LUSAKA02177
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: FOR ROGERS AND SCHAUFLELE
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840083-0754, N760006-0506
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760813/aaaaakox.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 211888, 76 STATE 213100
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KAUNDA'S NAMIBIAN SPEECH AND SECRETARY'S TRIP
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, ZA, RH, WA, US, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID), (CHONA, MARK), (ROGERS, WILLIAM D), (SCHAUFLELE, WILLIAM E JR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006